

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1.-4. (Cancelled)

5. (New) An evaluation method for monitoring consequences of an impact at low speed and force on a structural composite material part covered with a film that changes color when under pressure and whose color intensity is directly related to a received shock force, the method comprising:

calibrating a film by testing an impact on test parts covered in the film that are identical to a structural composite material part or on test tubes covered in the film, representative of the structural composite material part, to establish a link between a received shock force and a change in color in the film;

evaluating impacted areas of the test parts or test tubes using an appropriate qualification method selected from the group consisting of: x-ray or ultrasound to correlate the change in color in the film and a nature and extent of any structural disturbance of subjacent layers of the impacted area; and

establishing a scale of correspondences enabling qualification against a limiting threshold for acceptance of the evaluated part.

6. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the structural composite material part comprises a high-pressure gas or liquid tank usable for space launches, the structural composite material part comprising an impermeable internal metal or plastic layer upon which pre-engaged resin fibers are wound.

7. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the film comprises a matrix with drowned microcapsules susceptible to breaking up under stress of a determined threshold of force.

8. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the structural composite material part comprises a high-pressure gas or liquid tank usable for space launches, the structural composite material part comprising an impermeable internal metal or plastic layer upon which pre-engaged resin fibers are wound.

9. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the film is selected from commercially available films available in various levels of pressure sensitivity and, wherein an appropriate level of pressure is chosen by a limited force of impact that is acceptable for the structural composite material part when placed under such pressure.

10. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the structural composite material part comprises a high-pressure gas or liquid tank usable for space launches, the structural composite material part comprising an impermeable internal metal or plastic layer upon which pre-engaged resin fibers are wound.